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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR IN ADVANCE



A PICTURE OF SOME CHRISTIAN MOTHERS

BY JOSEPHINE K. HENRY.

The one thing that distresses her husband is that "Christianity alone has elevated woman." Its meaning is dimmed in woman's eyes until she considers it a crime in itself. The household slave at the cook stove, or wash-tub who never gets a cent or wages that all this sacrifice is a Christian duty. The woman who bears a child every year, who is possibly a mental tyrant to the child she bears, is taught it is her "Christian duty" to multiply and replenish the earth, whether she is willing or whether she is able. The woman who not only bears children, and keeps and supports the home, is taught that self-sacrifice is the greatest womanly virtue.

The woman whose earnest and noble feelings are outraged by subordination to recognized inferiority is told that silent submission is evidence of the model Christian woman.

And so the woman, wife and householder, who dares to oppose the Christian virtues of silence and submission to her husband, is taught that the Christian virtues of silence and submission

Each village and neighborhood has its martyrs to these Christian tenets, and these women are the mothers of the mental dwarfs and moral monstrosities that swarm in Christian countries, yet we presume to introduce upon the Oriental nations because of our superiority. To-day in Austria, one of the most intensely Christian countries, pregnant women and mothers of large families are compelled to travel the railroad from Linz to Salzburg. These women are compelled by the Austrian State Railroad Department to wade through the picket fence with brood hens and carry their babies on top of embankments in wheelbarrows.

Today women are carrying on their back the stones and mortar for the new railroad station at Nuremberg, Bavaria. In Austria nothing furnishes like religion, and the country swarms with priests, yet not one of them has ever protested against women being used as beasts of burden. Church and State are Slavish in Austria, and they see to it that women bear all the children. Nature will permit no woman like the brute to bear them like the brute of the field.

The negroes are the most religious people in the United States. Out of ten thousand negroes there are such soulless demands made upon human beings as upon the negro women of the most intensely Christian communities in the United States. They are at once child bearers and burden bearers.

The pay they receive is not enough to keep them working order and often the miserable conditions paid them for their labor are compounded of them by brutal or drunken husbands who with the support of their own profligate profligacy fall on the mothers.

The average negro woman, either cook or washer for white families, she lives in a hut in the slums of the city or town, with few or no comforts.

She bears children as often as nature will permit, and her wretched cabin swarms with her miserable offspring.

Yet through heat and cold, sunshine and storm, she leaves her own cabin, often without food, to go to the house of the whites to cook and get trifles and rents for the poorest of the poor, and render the poorest service to Christian families, who consider them as doing their Christian duty by paying her the miserable sum of five or six dollars per month for her labor. Her rugged hungry children await her at home, and more often than otherwise a tyrant brute of a husband, demands and gets her wages from her. The negro women are also the prey of the preachers of their race. Thus the ignorant creatures are robbed by their employers, and then we wonder why we have so many negro criminals.

There is nothing Christian about the way we treat the negroes, and nothing so wrong, so cruel, so savage and outraged as motherhood, and nothing so cheap. After the pains of travail Christianity does not allow a woman to own her own body, or the offspring of her body. Negro women are accused of being dishonest by their white employers. Whose fault is it? If the woman had living wages and had not so many land pirates preying upon her, she might be at least as

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Side

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 1906

men is not so elevated as it is painted. There is a vast amount of method in the conduct of Christians.

Chapel echoes, and pulpit catchwords serve to delude, but they do not always convert the truth.

Not Christianity but NOT elevated woman. If it has, why is the world warming to it with credulous gazing this wretched person's puppets? Why is it that the world is warming with the hoodies, not one in a thousand fit for either a husband or a father?

Women must be rescued from subordination to bear sages, or a race of moral and mental heroes.

Woman has the power to liberate the Reason, and thought of the highest rank, promise of the world. Will she do it?

Led not range before her mental vision the pictures of women of Christendom, and ask herself if the Christian elevation of woman is all it is painted to appear by the clergy.

Woe to the world as long as priesthood trades on the heart of woman. Both with its strength and weakness, its hopes, its fears, its desires, its aspirations, and woe too to Christianity, when the times arrives for it to reckon with woman's awakened intellect and reason.

Versailles, Kentucky.

PRISONERS OF FATE

By Josephine K. Henry.

The sun looks down on many weary hearts.

Though earth is gilded with its radiance bright;

But shadows dark

Fall on the lives of prince and wail,

And strife and poverty shut out the light

It is more sad than feeble words can tell

How many weary feet pursue life's

With piercing thorns in every step they take,

While home retreats and comfort

not stay.

What for is so relentless to poor helpless ones?

As poverty? That shylock of the race

That gloats o'er pain!

Finds joy in adding pangs to suffering,

And strives the last faint lingering

hope to efface,

How many million prisoners rise each

When in sight seems more important

to any country to have a race of noble

and grand mothers, than to

double track it with railroads, ornament

it with splendid churches, or

spread royal feasts.

Beside these types of Christian motherhood mentioned, there are numerous others varying only in degree.

The widow's mite is one of the trump card of the pulpitocracy and it is played for all it is worth. The church asks for, and accepts all these contributions from the poorest and most oppressed classes of the people.

The widow lay her mite on the "altar of the Lord" and the sacrifices and suffering of the widow to obtain the mite is never thought of as it is landed safely in the collection box.

The women of wealth who are at ease in Zion are another type of Christian mothers. They do not hear so many children as the women of the poor classes, neither do they suffer and sacrifice as much, but they bear the same load of credulity of their poorer sisters do, the wealthy Christian woman educated to the use of the dollar woman luxuries surrounding, gained for her by the exercise of intelligence and giant energy and all the Christianity in Christendom cannot save her from joining the vast army of drudges who are today the wards of the church. The eagles of intelligence rejoice, and the owl of superstition mourn when one woman discovers that Christianity is her enemy, instead of her friend as she has been taught.

Neither men nor women are either poets, nor tragedians, but

they are both very weak and very erring creatures and Christianity for its own interest has bound them up with solemn vows, and loaded them down with stringent obligations.

The comparison of the condition of heathen and Christian men is used as proof that "Christianity alone elevates woman." The truth is, the heathen women are slandered, and the condition is not so bad as it is painted, and the condition of Christian wo-

LINCOLN'S VOICE TO-DAY

"I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me, and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of war, corporations have been enthroned, and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all the wealth is aggregated in a few hands, and the republic is destroyed. I feel at this moment more anxiety for the safety of our country than for my own life, which is in the midst of war. God grant that my forebodings may be groundless."

"Monarchy itself is sometimes hinted at as a refuge from the power of the people. In my present position I could scarcely be justified were I to omit to raise a warning voice against the approach of returning despotism. It is not indeed nor fitting here that a general argument should be made in favor of popular institutions; but there is one point with its connections, not so hackneyed as most others, to which I ask brief attention. It is assumed that labor is available only in connection with capital; that nobody labors unless somebody else owns capital, somehow by the use of it, induces him to labor. Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor and could not have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and deserves much the higher consideration. I bid THE LABORING PEOPLE BEWARE OF SURRENDERING THE POWER WHICH THEY POSSESS, and which, if surrendered, will surely be used to shut the door of advancement for such as they, and fix new disabilities and burdens upon them until all of liberty shall be lost."

"In the early days of our race the Almighty said to the first of mankind, 'In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread,' and since then, if we except the light and air of heaven, no good thing has been or can be enjoyed by us without having cost labor. And inasmuch as most good things have been produced by labor, it follows that all such things belong of right to those whose labor has produced them. But it has so happened in all ages of the world, that some have labored, and others have, without labor, enjoyed a large portion of the fruits. This is wrong, and should not continue. To secure to each laborer the whole product of his labor, as nearly as possible, is a worthy object of my care."

"It seems strange that any man should dare to eat a just God's assistance in wringing bread from the sweat of other men's faces."

"This country with its institutions belong to its people who inhabit it."

"These are Abraham Lincoln's own inimitable words, in his Message to Congress, 1861, and in a letter to a friend, now in possession of a Maine physician."

White heartbreaks over dumb life.

White clay.

How many million couples

are

Whove trod the path from youth to

hoary age

Over life's rough way,

Are sitting by the hearstone that is

And bitter, burning tears blot mem-

ory's page,

Because their children from the home

have gone,

And only memory's echo haunts the

place

With steps and voices that have jour-

neyed out

On time's rough tide or road they can

not trace.

How many children come into this

life,

Bound by the fetters ignorance has

forged,

Captives till death,

Their blood a cesspool, bodies racked

with pain,

With heart and hopes by stern Fate

lashed and scourged.

Millions of innocents, prisoners of

Fate,

Because the laws of nature fail to

warn,

Because the darkened minds of men

would quench

The light of Reason. So the world

must mourn.

Millions of prisoners behind supernat-

ural bars,

And Orthodoxy guards the rusted key

That none escape.

These dare not claim Dame Nature as

their God,

But must obey blind Dogma's decree.

Their only beacon on the sea of Faith

Are Jack-o-lanterns swung by priestly

hands,

Whose idealisms and innate love of

power,

Wreck grandest possibilities on shambles

and sands.

Minds, souls and bodies beating

against bars

Of poverty, pain, lust and impure

thought

Silenced by Fate

Humanity of every rank and phase,

By priests and robber barons sold and

bought

Attention to the racking bondage will

never end.

Deliverance come,

Till brain, and heart, and nerve can

bear no more.

Death's keen shaft doth flesh and

spirit rend.

And round these palm-racked prison-

ers watch and wait

Thousands of anxious loved ones night

and day,

Till naught is left them, but an empty

shrine,

MRS. HENRY'S NEW PAMPHLET.

The pamphlet "Marriage and Divorce," written by Josephine K. Henry, is now published.

It is receiving large orders from all sections and from all classes of people. The legislative season being on in many states, many orders are being received from lawyers and legislators, who have introduced bills relating to Marriage or Divorce. An Ex-Governor of Maine, and other prominent men, are in favor of the bills.

Mr. Henry, the author, has written with an extraordinary demand.

Mrs. Henry, who is handling the entire large edition is receiving large and small orders from all sections and from all classes of people. The legislative season being on in many states, many orders are being received from lawyers and legislators, who have introduced bills relating to Marriage or Divorce. An Ex-Governor of Maine, and other prominent men, are in favor of the bills.

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(From Sun-Sentinel).
THE WOMEN WHO DO NOT CARE
TO VOTE.

By Josephine K. Henry.

Great as we claim this American nation to be, it is still burdened with a common prejudice, and a common ignorance, as to the human rights of one-half of our people, namely: women. It is a sad fact that up to this time, women have concerned themselves little about their rights. They have accepted in silence the conditions made by men, the wrong, injustice, and indignity put upon them by Church and State.

A voice in public affairs is the right of every citizen, and this right rests on the bed rock principle of our government. Yet half our people, the most moral half, are still in political bonds.

A thousand objections to women voting have been made but not one reason that will not equally apply to men.

All others failing, the last objection is that "Women do not want to vote." It is true that the mass of women do not and why? Men have told them that they are not concerned in public affairs, which are beyond "woman's sphere." The two hundred words in the lead of the "Woman's Sphere" have been doing constant duty ever since Adam owned the world to the public, but women who think are retiring them from active service. Millions of women have lived drawed and unnatural lives because they have been pursued by the "Woman's Sphere" ogre. Where did men get his commission to bound woman's sphere? Man has no sphere. He can do anything or go anywhere, and never get out of his sphere.

Man can sit in the presidential chair or take a nap in the gutter. He can go to church, go to the sauna, go into the library, or go to Congress and never get out of his sphere.

In the past in every condition of woman's life some man usually appeared upon the scene with advice borrowed from Adam, the children of Israel, and Old Common Law. Woman accepted the laws, customs, and "shall-nots" laid down for her without protest, and one of the most emphatic of these was "Thou shalt not vote," which means in other words, "Thou shalt not have a voice in human affairs and the laws that shape your destiny."

Suppose that women in past years had seized the world and held men in subjection as was the case in the time of the matriarchate, would the mass of men be deemed worthy of the ballot to-day? Certainly.

History records no instance where a subjected class demanded their liberty.

A few intrepid souls have fought liberty's battle. The subjected classes have always been unthinking, stupid, silent, and subservient. This is the condition of American women, that is, the masses, to-day. They are oblivious to the fact, that the national policy and every State's legislative law affects their personal and property interests.

They have told women that it is unnecessary to investigate and discuss political and social questions and when they confine themselves to the fashion plates and cook books, they call them weak, frivolous, and silly. Men who hold the purse, and make the laws have told women that voting is exclusively a masculine prerogative, and then declare that when all women demand the ballot it will be granted.

What women want, has nothing to do with the question. If it is right and just, according to American principles that the people (and that includes women), should have a voice in public affairs then the ballot should be given them at once, if not single one of the female sex had ever asked for it; and if it is not right, then it should not be granted if every woman in the United States clamors for it.

Whether the suffrage is an inherent or a conferred right, it is an axiom that that right has no sex. The Cubans and Filipinos may well distrust the intentions of the United States to grant them Liberty and Justice when we deny these to one half our States.

The women in our country who are openly demanding the ballot are called the strong minded sisterhood, then logically the women who do not want the ballot, must belong to the weak minded sisterhood. How do our conservative sisters like the classification?

I resent the idea that the masses of women are weak-minded. It often happens that all the brains in the family are in the heads of the women, and it can be no where shown that masculinity has no trust on common sense. Men do not seem to realize that they know every thing in this world, except what women know better. It takes ten times as much mental strength and poise to engineer a household and rear a family, as it does to lead an army, fill any political office, or conduct a political campaign. It is said that the American home is the bulwark of the nation. Our homes

are principally run by women.

They are the law, the constitution, the code. If all our institutions were on a par with American homes, we would be an ideal nation, and yet, we owe all this to a disenchanted class. Now a few words to the women, who do not want to vote. I wish dear sisters, you would for a few moments doff your spring hat, and put on a thinking cap. It is not wisdom to accept without question either laws or conditions. Ponder this fact. A man outside of the lunatic asylum and the penitentiary are considered responsible beings and inherit a vote at the age of 21 years. Women who are sane, and who never transgressed a law, like to the age of 121, yet, they never inherit a vote. Is not this in itself a severe reflection on the mental and moral ability of our sex?

A Kentucky convicted criminal and his wife, who had been freed from the scaffold, made idiots, alcoholics, drunkards, and illiterates, may vote, but no native-born, law-abiding, intelligent, sober, virtuous, tax paying woman may vote in this State that boasts of its democracy and chivalry. Dear women, the next time you say "do not want to vote," think of the political company you are in, and surely that will bring a protest against disqualification. You are told that if women voted, it would unsex them, and do not think the author of such ideas does either. Surely of proposing as opinion, dropping a piece of paper in a box with any man, it could never men who buy and sell votes, stuff ballot boxes and steal elections, which is being done in all sections of our country. Perhaps some women do not want to vote, for fear men will not be chivalrous, and polite to them. This is a delusion. I have claimed my right to vote for many years before the Kentucky Legislature, committees of Congress through the press, and from the platform. I was nominated by conventions of men for Clerks of the Court of Appeals and Superior Courts.

Unfortunately, I have never met with any thing but Chetian, Seldian politeness from all classes of men. If men are polite to women who want to vote, they would overwhelm with chivalry and politeness the women who had votes.

The street scavenger and the boot black are of vastly more importance on election day than all the women in the State.

Women are told if they went to the polls, men would insult them. I pronounce this a slander on the male sex. Americans have too high a regard for women to do such a brutal thing, and if a man at the polls should ever do this, the whole business the good men of the community would put him behind the bars. Besides there is no law that compels all classes to vote at all. It is not an obligation of any man, that they could have their own voting places, and if they did, it is a dead certainty that they would be so orderly and attractive that all the good and decent men would edge around to the women's polls leaving the ringsters, rowdies and ruffians in possession of the masculine voting place. I would like to have re-written it, but it is probably better just as it is. I have tried right hard to exhibit the possession of an extra stock of brain matter, I doubt if it would have been much, if any better; so I've just let it go as I wrote it without re-writing a page.

The book I believe presents as great a diversity of subjects as any book of the kind written. It is both like, and unlike Dr. Fennell's, a book which cannot be surpassed in some ways. In clearness of description and humor, no writer, not even Mark Twain has equalled Mr. Moore.

It is said that women should not have the ballot because they are not fit to rule. This is true. Women fight better than men, but they do so as a rule. Some of the greatest fighters in history have been women. The very earth has trembled under the tread of women warriors and their armies. If the Russians had to-day Catherine, a Maria, Theresa, or Maria garn of Anjou, in command of their armies, the Japs might not have such a triumphal march as they are having. What connection is there between ballot and bullet? If only the men who could bear arms, had votes the polls would be lonesome places, most of the men in Congress and our State Legislatures, all our Supreme Judges, a number of the most noted lawyers, clerks, weeklings, sentimental and physical defectives would be disfranchised at once, and placed in the political company of lunatics, idiots, criminals, and women, and to these would be added the men that are afraid to fight, and the dots of Dr. Oster's incompetence who are over 40 years of age. President Roosevelt, would lose his voice because he is 45 years old, past the age for enlisting in the army. Millions of men have no intention of going to war and the clergy are exceptions from bearing arms, yet all these classes are right now on the ballot.

There is no one who should be allowed to vote, but the old, infirm, and weak. Men do not seem to realize that they know every thing in this world, except what women know better. It takes ten times as much mental strength and poise to engineer a household and rear a family, as it does to lead an army, fill any political office, or conduct a political campaign. It is said that the American home is the bulwark of the nation. Our homes

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Of course there is something depressing in the Irish woman's objection to casting a ballot. She said to her friend, "Bridge, if we'd go out in the dungeon and execution rooms in the Doge Palace, gave him the shivers, and he said he couldn't sleep that night. I spent part of an afternoon alone in the dungeon of the Doge, in what is called the "Cell of the Doomed," and from which thousands upon thousands had languished, and taken out to be executed."

My description of the what's in Italy I am sure will peculiarly appeal to all Liberals, as have the Christian superstition was hatched, and to this subject, I give particular attention.

The book will have 22 chapters and between 350 and 400 pages. I hope the edition will all be taken up. Mr. Hughes is printing 2000 copies, and he will lose, if they are not sold. Send your order to him at once. When you get the book, if you like it, and can afford it, buy one for some one who will appreciate it. Let the order come right away. This book is now on, when you have to buy the fire, and stay in at nights and have time for reading. Come, go with me, and let us take "A Trip to Rome".

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to be worth the price of the book.

You don't want to miss my description of St. Mark's and the Doge's Palace.

Brother Jeems Armstrong of Texas, lately paid me a visit, and my description of the Torture Rooms, and of the Dungeon and Execution Rooms in the Doge Palace, gave him the shivers, and he said he couldn't sleep that night.

I spent part of an afternoon alone in the dungeon of the Doge, in what is called the "Cell of the Doomed," and from which thousands upon thousands had languished, and taken out to be executed.

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REVIVAL HAS SO GRADUALLY

That Few Realize It—Says Dr. Washington Gladden

Men and Women.

Columbus, Ohio, December 31.—Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden, Moderator of the Congregational churches of the United States, in a sermon delivered from his pulpit to-day, declared that the world is in the midst of a great revival of religion that has come about so gradually that few have realized it. Dr. Gladden said in part:

"There has been during the past year a marked change in the mental and moral attitude of a great many persons; hundreds of thousands of people, old and young, are thinking differently about life to-day from what they were thinking a year ago to-day; they have a different idea of what is worth while. This is the spirit of the air.

The newspapers reflect public sentiment. Nearly every one you take up has a paragraph or an editorial which puts the emphasis on the real things, the value of characters.

"What shall we say about the influence which has so changed the mental and moral attitude of great multitudes of people? What has been raised above it? I think that we are in

the midst of a great revival of religion—the greatest, perhaps, that this country has ever experienced. It has not been conducted in the traditional way, but in the general things of life; character has not proceeded from church at all. Dr. Gladden is only

echoing the voice of Rationalism. He is away, way behind even me, who have only recently appeared upon the practical scenes of life. This man of Reform was started by the heroes of Freethought, two or three centuries ago.

"As men become free religiously, as they gradually become free

and from out of such soil developed economic freedom, and all three influences are today coming closer together for the purpose of helping men to live for, and to make

what is really meant by a

Christian religion, which is the soul of this revival as one that puts the emphasis on clearing off old cares and getting ready for heaven, and one that puts the emphasis on making this life a better life and this world a better world."

Comment—Dr. Washington Gladden of Columbus, is one of the noted men of America, and his opinions upon any subject is always worth noting. He is a liberal preacher, and far from being a bigot. He speaks out boldly in defense of labor, and against the crimes of corporations. Unfortunately his influence is greatly offset, by his association with an alliance with the corporations. The church could not stand long without the aid of the corporations, it is evidently indirectly and from monopoly.

Dr. Gladden made a great stand, a single-handed fight against his church

and the great Rockefeller gift.

We must put it down to his credit that he stood boldly out against that money, and no doubt, he is working for good, so far as he is able.

In the above Dr. Gladden makes one mistake natural to all religious

—that is that the reform he

perceives to be coming so gradually is of a religious nature. He declares that the present drift is to live not for the next life, but to make this life a better life, and this world a better world.

The small cry which occasionally

comes from the church, and there

is no doubt that it is the

small cry which is the soul of

the great cry of Freethought.

Victor J. Evans & Co.,
(Patent Attorneys),
Evans Building, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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All Rationalists will want to read in the current number Darrow's great article on "Punishment and Its Function," "Free-thought, the Essential of All Progress," by Wilson; "All is Matter—All Matter is Mind," by Dr. William Colby Cooper, and "Liberal Liberalism," "Obsolescence of the Church," "Philosophy of Optimism," "Human Equality" and other articles by Hurt, as well as many other first-class features.

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comes from the growing intelligent

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of humanity in general. Lincoln saw

it coming as evidenced in the extract

of one of his addresses printed in

another column. Many good men,

even many eminent Liberals are still

blind to it.

This wave of revival, which Dr. Gladden has not yet appreciated, has proceeded from the general things of life.

Character has not proceeded from

the voice of Rationalism. He is

away, way behind even me, who have only recently appeared upon the practical scenes of life. This man of Reform was started by the heroes of Freethought, two or three centuries ago.

As men become free religiously, as they gradually become free

and from out of such soil developed economic freedom, and all three influences are today coming closer together for the purpose of helping men to live for, and to make

what is really meant by a

Christian life and a better world.

It has come gradually, slowly,

until now, it has perceptually im-

pressed itself upon the world. It is not a wave of religion, but a wave of intelligence, the outgrowth of the sense of justice inherent in the mind of man.

J. B. W.

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